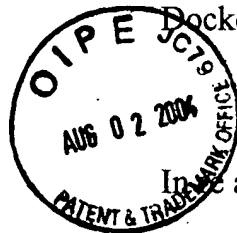


IFW



Docket No. 924-076

Patent

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

JAMES L. LAYNE et al.

Examiner: Richard Ridley

Serial No.: 10/731,954

Art Unit: 3651

Filed: December 10, 2003

For: SELF-TENSIONING CONVEYOR

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicant reviewed the preliminary Office Action dated July 13, 2004 requesting restriction among the various species of the invention allegedly present. In response, Applicant elects Species IV without traverse. Claims 13-15, 22-23, 26-27, 28-31, and 35-42 read on the elected species.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence
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[Signature] July 29, 2004